

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 013403

64

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SPC-03 EB-11 L-03 INR-10 PRS-01

RSC-01 /064 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:JPLEONARD:BDS

APPROVED BY EA:AWHUMMEL, JR.

EA/PRCM - MR. BROOKS (DRAFT)

EB/ITP/EWT - MR. GREGORY (DRAFT)

EA/ROC - MR. SULLIVAN

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

EA, S/S, S/PC, EB

----- 040850

P R 212320Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 013403

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MCAP, ETRD, CH, TW

SUBJECT: CONTACTS BETWEEN US HELICOPTER MANUFACTURERS
AND PRC

REF: TAIPEI 419

1. PARAS 1 THROUGH 4 ARE FOR EMBASSY BACKGROUND ONLY:
PRC HAS BEEN INTERESTED IN PURCHASING HELICOPTERS FROM
THE WEST FOR SOME TIME, AND IN NOVEMBER 1973 SIGNED A
CONTRACT FOR 13 SUPER FRELON HELICOPTERS FROM FRENCH
FIRM (SOCIETE NATIONALE INDUSTRIELLE AEROSPATIALE).
THIS SALE REQUIRES COCOM AND USG APPROVAL SINCE CERTAIN
AMERICAN-MANUFACTURED EQUIPMENT IS INVOLVED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 013403

2. PRC OFFICIALS HAVE IN ADDITION INITIATED CONTACTS

WITH AT LEAST 3 US HELICOPTER MANUFACTURERS: VERTOL DIVISION OF BOEING; BELL HELICOPTER; AND KAMAN AERO SPACE. AT SAME TIME, UNITED AIRCRAFT (HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT) HAS ATTEMPTED TO INTEREST PRC AUTHORITIES IN ITS SIKORSKY LINE OF HELICOPTERS. (ARTICLE BY GEORGE SHERMAN IN JANUARY 16 WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS, WHICH CONTAINED SEVERAL INACCURACIES, HAS STIRRED INTENSE PRESS INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT. SHERMAN ARTICLE MENTIONED ONLY UNITED AIRCRAFT CONTACTS WITH PRC. COMPANY HAS CONFIRMED TO PRESS THAT PRELIMINARY CONTACTS HAD BEEN MADE WITH PRC.)

3. REPRESENTATIVES OF ONE US FIRM, AFTER DECEMBER VISIT TO PEKING, INDICATED THAT CHINESE SEEMED MOST INTERESTED IN CONFIGURATIONS FOR VIP MISSIONS, HIGH ALTITUDE/HOT TEMPERATURE CAPABILITY, AND POSSIBLE MINERALS AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION AND SOME TYPE OF AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION.

4. SALES OF US-MANUFACTURED CIVILIAN HELICOPTERS AND RELATED AVIONICS GEAR REQUIRE USG EXPORT LICENSE, APPLICATIONS FOR WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO INTERAGENCY REVIEW. IN ADDITION, LARGER HELICOPTERS (OVER 10,000 LBS. EMPTY WEIGHT), AND THOSE EQUIPPED WITH CERTAIN AVIONICS GEAR REQUIRE COCOM APPROVAL. IN ALL CASES, EVIDENCE OF PEACEFUL END-USE BY A CIVILIAN END-USER IS REQUIRED. ALTHOUGH CHINESE HAVE IN PAST TAKEN POSITION THAT IT IS AGAINST PRC POLICY TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION, IT HAS OFTEN BEEN POSSIBLE TO MAKE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION IN A FORM SATISFACTORY TO THE US. END BACKGROUND.

5. IF QUERIED BY GRC, EMBASSY SHOULD STATE THAT USG IS AWARE OF, AND HAS NOT DISCOURAGED, CONTACTS BETWEEN US HELICOPTER MANUFACTURERS AND PRC OFFICIALS ABOUT POSSIBLE SALE OF CIVILIAN TYPE HELICOPTERS. HOWEVER, ANY SUCH SALES OF HELICOPTERS TO THE PRC WOULD REQUIRE USG EXPORT LICENSES, AND AS YET THERE HAVE BEEN NO APPLICATIONS FOR SUCH LICENSES. IN ADDITION TO THE HELICOPTERS THEMSELVES, RELATED AVIONICS GEAR AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 013403

UNPUBLISHED TECHNOLOGY ARE AMONG ITEMS REQUIRING EXPORT LICENSE FOR SALE TO PRC.

6. ANY APPLICATION FOR EXPORT LICENSES WOULD BE SUBJECT TO USG INTERAGENCY REVIEW, AND IN ALL CASES, EVIDENCE OF PEACEFUL END-USE BY A CIVILIAN END-USER IS REQUIRED. IF ASKED BY GRC, YOU MAY ADD THAT USG ITSELF HAS NOT DISCUSSED POSSIBLE HELICOPTER SALES

WITH THE PRC. IF ASKED BY THE GRC WHETHER THERE IS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN POSSIBLE HELICOPTER SALES AND RECENT PRESS SPECULATION THAT US MIGHT SELL MILITARY WEAPONS TO THE PRC, YOU SHOULD STATE THAT STORIES ALLEGING POSSIBLE US ARMS SALES TO THE PRC (E.G. RECENT NEWSWEEK PERISCOPE ITEM) ARE FALSE IN ALL PARTICULARS. HELICOPTERS US COMPANIES HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH PRC ARE CIVILIAN VERSIONS FOR CIVILIAN PURPOSES ONLY. IF QUERIED AS TO WHICH US FIRMS ARE INVOLVED IN PROSPECTIVE HELICOPTER SALES, EMBASSY MAY NOTE INTEREST PUBLICLY EXPRESSED BY UNITED AIRCRAFT COMPANY, BUT SHOULD NOT IDENTIFY OTHER FIRMS, SAYING IT IS NOT OUR POLICY

TO DISCLOSE THIS TYPE OF STRICTLY PRIVATE COMMERCIAL INFORMATION.

KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HELICOPTERS, MILITARY SALES, AIRCRAFT SALES, EXPORT CONTROLS, END USE CHECKS, EXPORT LICENSES, ARMS SHIPMENTS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE013403
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPLEONARD:BDS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740126/aaaaayuy.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: TAIPEI 419
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUL 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <26 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTACTS BETWEEN US HELICOPTER MANUFACTURERS AND PRC
TAGS: PFOR, MCAP, ETRD, CH, TW, US, FR
To: TAIPEI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005